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Finally in "The Deluge on the Dikes" the author speaks of the outer dikes as the regions where white men exercise political control but there is no settled white population. He points out the strength of the agitation against white control in Asia and says in conclusion: "That this profound Asiatic renaissance will eventually result in the substantial elimination of white political control from Anatolia to the Philippines is as natural as it is inevitable." This conclusion he bases on the idea "that men worthy of independence will sooner or later get independence." Therefore, since the yellow men and the brown men by their past achievements have shown themselves worthy of independence, the best thing the white man can do is to move out of Asia with as good grace and with as little conflict as possible. But he must not let the brown Arabs overrun Africa and the yellow Chinese overrun Latin America. That would bring the colored peril close to the inner dikes—the places where the white man actually lives.

The "colored" peril has three parts: the peril of arms, the peril of markets, and the peril of migration. Mr. Stoddard recognizes that the peril of arms is slight except under certain almost impossible contingencies. The peril of markets seems to him more important, for he holds that the yellow people have the capacity for manufacturing as well as the white people. This may be true in Japan though it is doubtful in the rest of Asia. The question is not only whether the yellow men have the innate capacity, but whether the climate and other environmental features under which they live permit the constant energy and mental alertness which seem to be indispensable for the higher types of manufacturing. As to the peril of migration the case seems clearer. Mr. Stoddard may not be right in saying that all the white man's "marvelous achievements are due solely to heredity," for the fact that aside from Japan the white man occupies all the regions where the physical environment is highly favorable may have a great deal to do with the matter. Nevertheless, the greatest danger which today confronts the white race in general and the United States in particular is probably the dilution of a fine, capable racial inheritance with stocks of less capacity, both white and colored. In the clear and forceful manner that is characteristic of his entire book the author points out that "the East can *underlive* the West" and thereby drive out the westerners wherever the two attempt to compete on equal terms. This is true not only of Asiatics but of eastern and southern Europeans. Whenever such people mingle with those of higher heredity, they do not lift the superior type to a higher social level, as is often supposed, but actually drive it out, or rather prevent it from being born, as is rapidly happening in New England. This is not because the lower type is biologically the "best" but because it is willing to increase and multiply regardless of its own standard of living and that of its children. The higher types, on the contrary, refuse to lower their standards by rapid multiplication and therefore die out. The forceful way in which this great truth is brought out makes Mr. Stoddard's book deserve not only careful reading but careful thought in order that its conclusions may be acted upon.

ELLSWORTH HUNTINGTON

#### MODERN ITALIAN EMIGRATION

R. F. FOERSTER. *The Italian Emigration of Our Times*. xv and 556 pp.; indexes. (Harvard Economic Studies, Vol. 20.) Harvard University Press, Cambridge, 1919. \$2.50. 9 x 6 inches.

Studies of present day migrations are being added one by one to the materials of the student of the humanities. The volume in hand represents a marked advance over its predecessors and contemporaries in at least three particulars. Instead of considering the immigration of a given national group into one country only, it adopts the standpoint of the migrating people, whose separate currents of movement over the world are chronicled as distributaries of one great stream; instead of being written by an apologist for or a historian of this or that nationality, it is the work of a student of social affairs whose breadth of approach gives it the stamp of catholicity; instead of being written from personal information combined with reference to a limited range of written sources, it is the product of prolonged and extensive study of voluminous and widely scattered documentary material, corroborated by some field work.

The reader will not lay the book aside without regrets: he will wish that evidence collected from diverse and unequally authoritative sources might have been more nearly harmonized, or at least that he had been given a thread to follow through the maze of confusing and contradictory facts; he will feel that more intensive field work in Italy would have repaid the

necessary effort; and he may take issue with the tendency to put a better face on the movement than the evidence of the documents warrants.

The work leaves little to be desired in certain respects: as a repository of much exceedingly useful information, no small part of which has been beyond the reach of most students in the United States; as an example of organization which might be followed profitably in dealing with other great migrations of this age; and as formulating certain general conclusions with respect to such migrations, which, if tentative as yet, may prove to be fundamental when the evidence from other emigrations is available.

The outline of the material is simple, and its key is furnished by an admirable topical table of contents. Following some forty pages of summarized conclusions, which seem heavy with statistical facts until reread in the light of the more extended subsequent treatment, is an inquiry into the causes of migration, within typical sections of Italy and within every foreign country whither Italians have gone in significant numbers. The marked contrasts between emigration from northern Italy and emigration from southern Italy, the broad similarities of the separate movements into European countries, the significance of the settlement in North Africa, and the striking differences between South American and North American immigration, are set forth in the midst of a rich store of detailed information as to the extent and character of the migrations. The final hundred pages of text deal with the motives of the individual migrant and with the private and public consequences of his activities.

Although the book is primarily a study in the field of social economics and therefore stresses the business of wresting a living from foreign and not always hospitable communities, neither the geographic basis nor the moral and political consequences of this business have been neglected.

The geographer will find the richest offerings in chapters three, four, and seven, which deal chiefly with the conditions of the natural environment in Italy. The ultimate potent cause of emigration is seen to be the lasting inferior economic position which Italy holds in comparison with her neighbors in western Europe, or with the American countries. This inferior economic level affects the people mainly through backward and handicapped agriculture (the principal occupation of the country); and the conditions which hamper agriculture are (1) water erosion and avalanches in the uplands, (2) deposition of gravel on, inundation of, and malaria in the lowlands, and (3) aridity everywhere. Undeniably all these untoward conditions are worse today than formerly. To account for the deterioration the hypothesis of climatic change is suggested but is expressly left aside as unnecessary to the argument, which is rested upon known deforestation which took place during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. As a result of this deforestation the seasonal torrential rainfall has produced the discouraging conditions enumerated above, which in turn have enforced extensive agriculture, have resulted in niggardly crops, have compelled the peasants to live in the uplands and to traverse long distances to their work on the fertile but malarial lowlands, and, by depopulating these lowlands, have made possible open field brigandage. Rarely have the economic and social consequences of a geographic condition been traced in such detail.

From southern Italy, where the evil consequences of deforestation are most apparent because of the unsatisfactory distribution of rainfall, emigration first took place from the populous uplands, where agricultural land was scarce, and among those who received a medium wage and who were therefore able to get away and yet were not tempted to remain. From northern Italy, nearness to more favored countries which could offer better pay than the homeland seems to have been the magnet of attraction. The emigrants from both sections have served mostly as unskilled laborers, either on the soil in Argentina, Brazil, and North Africa, or as construction hands and the like in the United States and in continental Europe. In France, Germany, and Luxemburg they perform the most laborious tasks in the steel mills and mines. Those who are skilled workmen are mostly miners, quarrymen, and stonecutters, adhering to trades which they learned in producing their native extensive mineral wealth. Fruit vending is popular among those who assay business for themselves, particularly if they be Sicilians. In the Plata, along the African littoral of the Mediterranean, and off the Dalmatian coast, the fishing is chiefly in the hands of Italians—Chioggian in the Adriatic, Ligurian elsewhere.

The later chapters contain numerous additional references which throw light on the economic geography of this or that country of immigration, but the materials for political geography are more considerable. Pages 212-222 on North Africa illuminate the well-

known quarrel between Italy and France over Tunis with facts which most historians have failed to note; the discussion of the work of Italians in effecting an economic and political renaissance in Argentina is a vital study in the comparative influence of environment and tradition (which is itself, in one view, a product of past environment); Chapters 22 and 23, dealing with the effect of emigration on general Italian foreign policy, show that Italian national imperialism is bulwarked by, if not sprung from emigration.

The chapters on the United States are almost purely economic in scope. Italian emigration thither is recent, and most of it is seasonal and transient. Consequently there has been little opportunity for reactions by or upon the environment. Perhaps because of this situation Italians in the United States disclose sharply a trait common to their compatriots elsewhere—they carry to their new homes the regional antipathies and separatist tendencies which are the product of age-old geographic separatism within Italy.

Each of the chapters on the countries of immigration contains valuable statistics of the geographic and occupational distribution of immigrants within the country and of their origin within Italy. Figures on emigration appear in the first two chapters of the volume and in the Appendix. All these may be found readily with the aid of the general index, which is unusually well prepared. The special student will find materials well in hand in the two-column bibliographical index of nine pages. Nearly every page of the text is elaborated with footnotes containing quotations from the sources.

Combining careful workmanship, broad scholarship, and readability, the work proves that romance need not be excluded from a work of erudition, provided the subject is a vital one.

D. S. WHITTLESEY

#### RECENT BOOKS OF TRAVEL IN ASIA

EDMUND CANDLER. **On the Edge of the World.** 278 pp.; map, ills., index. Cassell & Co., Ltd., London, New York, Toronto, and Melbourne, 1919. 8 x 5½ inches.

ELLA AND PERCY SYKES. **Through Deserts and Oases of Central Asia.** xii and 340 pp.; maps, ills., index. Macmillan & Co., Ltd., London, 1920. 21s. 8½ x 5½ inches.

A. DE C. SOWERBY. **Sport and Science on the Sino-Mongolian Frontier.** xvi and 295 pp.; ills. Andrew Melrose, Ltd., London, 1918. 8½ x 5½ inches.

S. POLLARD. **In Unknown China: A Record of the Observations, Adventures and Experiences of a Pioneer Missionary During a Prolonged Sojourn Amongst the Wild and Unknown Nosu Tribe of Western China.** 324 pp.; maps, ills., index. J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia; Seeley, Service & Co., Ltd., London, 1921. 25s. 9 x 6 inches.

R. C. AND Y. B. ANDREWS. **Camps and Trails in China. A Narrative of Exploration, Adventure, and Sport in Little-Known China.** xxv and 334 pp.; maps, ills., index. D. Appleton & Co., New York and London, 1920. \$5.00. 8½ x 6 inches.

These books of travel, all well illustrated, have in common the fact that they deal with frontier regions on the marches of the old Chinese Empire. In each instance the peoples dealt with arouse particular interest in the traveler from their contrast with neighboring folk, and in each region Nature is impressive—wild mountain country or desert wilderness. If it is the “sun-baked, barren ridges, the shifting, windswept sand-dunes, and the saline, brackish swamps of the Ordos Desert” that cast the strongest spell on Mr. Sowerby, Mr. Candler in “On the Edge of the World” succumbs to the glories of the mountains “back of Kashmir.” The latter author has produced a delightful volume. He touches traditional phases of Indian life and landscape but in such a charming and whimsical manner that the most ordinary subject is given new life. To his writing he brings much of the insight and philosophy of a Kipling and a scientific knowledge and interest. Mountains and pilgrims and pilgrimages are his main themes. The sacred places of the high mountains, the cave of Amarnath, the lake of Gangabal call forth sympathetic description; with its degenerate priests, the shrine of Jawala Mukhi, the Sacred Flame, in the foothills back of Amritsar evokes an unattractive contrast. Of special interest is the visit to Nanga Parbat “a wild country and a wilder people”—mountain raiders who terrorize the Kashmir peasantry. Particular mention may be made of the excursion to the Rakiot glacier, previously visited by Mummery, Bruce, and Collie with whose reports its present aspect is compared. There are also a couple of journeys in Persia—on the old Baghdad-Kermanshah road and in the Bakhtiari foothills.